

# IS A FIRE PIT A GOOD IDEA?

Whether you already have a fire pit or are planning to add one, invest some effort in reviewing fire pit safety. It only takes a second for a cozy fire to burst into a blazing inferno. Ensure you get the most enjoyment from your fire pit by keeping family and friends safe.

## TOP FIVE SAFETY TIPS



1

Fire pit safety starts with selecting the right site. Make sure the ground is level, keep fires located at least 10 to 20 feet away from surrounding plants, use special caution related to overhanging trees and surround your fire pit with non-combustible materials, like crushed stone, brick or sand.

2

Only burn wood that's been seasoned at least six months. For wood-burning fire pits, cut logs so their length is less than three-quarters the diameter of the pit.

3

Never use lighter fluid or gasoline to start a fire in a fire pit.

4

Built-in seating prevents seats from being drawn too close to the flames; consider heavier chairs.

5

Use a fire pit screen and have a bucket of sand or garden hose handy to deal with wayward sparks from wood fires. Attach a hose-end multi-pattern nozzle to the hose, setting it to "spray." A shower-type spray douses a flare up, while a direct stream of water can spread sparks. Keep fire gloves nearby to handle hot parts of the fire pit safely.

